

with our Federal budget expected to reach historic levels this year, we cannot risk more public funds to be squandered.

In light of the Fed's vastly expanded policy options for addressing key sources of market turmoil going forward and their relative effectiveness—combined with the very real risk that more TARP funding will be used for an industrial policy—I am voting against the release of the second half of TARP funds. Although I am concerned about the Fed moving into new and expanded policy territory, that concern is tempered by the fact that the Fed is relatively insulated from politics and lobbyists and is more singularly focused on the stability and health of the financial system, which was my foremost reason for approving the original TARP funding last October.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, January 22, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

##### JANUARY 27

9:30 a.m.

##### Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine challenges facing the Department of Defense.

SD-106

10 a.m.

##### Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine investment securities fraud, focusing on regulator and oversight concerns.

SD-538

##### Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine access to prevention and public health for high risk populations.

TBD

##### Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine health information technology (IT), focusing on protecting Americans' privacy in the digital age.

SD-226

##### JANUARY 28

9:30 a.m.

##### Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of James B. Steinberg, to be Deputy Secretary, and Jacob J. Lew, to be Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources, both of the Department of State.

SD-419

##### Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine veteran's disability compensation, focusing on the appeals process.

SR-418

10 a.m.

##### Budget

To hold hearings to examine federal response to the housing and financial crisis.

SD-608

##### Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine global climate change.

SD-419

##### Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine lessons from the Mumbai, India terrorist attacks.

SD-342

##### Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Eric H. Holder, Jr., to be Attorney General.

SH-216